

6th ESDN Peer Learning Platform

30 – 31 August 2021

Civil Society and Citizen Involvement and Engagement for the 2030 Agenda

Agenda

30 - 31 August 2021

Hybrid Peer Learning Platform

Alandica Culture and Congress
Strandgatan 35, 22 100 Mariehamn, Åland Islands

“Ryssö” Conference Room

Organized by the

European Sustainable Development Network (ESDN)

in cooperation with the

Nordic Council of Ministers

&

Government of Åland

Background Information on the Peer Learning Platform

The 6th ESDN Peer Learning Platform is being organized by the European Sustainable Development Network together with the Nordic Council of Ministers and the Government of Åland. The objectives of the Platform are to learn from one another on good practice examples from all over Europe on how governments are involving and engaging with civil society and citizens when it comes to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The ESDN has an established history with the Nordic Council of Ministers, having cooperated together to organize the 4th ESDN Peer Learning Platform in Copenhagen in 2019 on Budgeting for the SDGs. This cooperation will continue and the Nordic Council of Ministers is bringing a unique perspective, as they are in the midst of establishing a Nordic Civil Society Network with the purpose to make the voice of civil society increasingly involved and engaged in the Nordic cooperation for sustainable development. It is the hope that the experiences being made by the Nordic Council of Ministers and those of participating ESDN member countries can serve as a way to share these good practice cases, learn from one another, and forward the sustainable development agenda in Europe.

The Government of Åland is celebrating its 100th year of autonomy and will be the host for many activities related to sustainable development and the 2030 Agenda. In collaboration with the Government of Åland, the youth movement ReGeneration 2030 is hosting the ReGeneration Week on the 28 – 31 August in Mariehamn. This is a powerful platform for change that fosters and highlights leadership, strengthens and unites actors, builds excitement and engagement, demands change, and facilitates action. ReGeneration Week offers a high-level meeting place where youth and decision-makers get to discuss and propose solutions for a more sustainable future. It is a meeting place and a platform for learning and knowledge sharing. ReGeneration Week aims to build a bridge between individual action taking and political demands, corporate responsibility and system change. ReGeneration Week has been organized since 2018 and this year's theme is *Rethinking the System*.

The ESDN will take part on 30 August in the ReGeneration Week Dialogues to connect Youth with policymakers and seek to spur the discussions and debates for the Peer Learning Platform on 31 August on further citizen and civil society involvement and engagement in sustainable development. In addition to these two events being hosted by the Government of Åland, the Nordic Council of Ministers is also organizing a meeting of its Nordic Expert Group for Sustainable Development, which consists of members representing the ministries and youth organizations of the Nordic countries.

Together, we hope to bring sustainable development one step closer to the citizens of Europe.

09:00 - 12:30 EEST ESDN Internal Strategy Workshop (Conference Room "Ryssö")

12:30 - 14:00 EEST ESDN Lunch (Internal)

14:00 – 14:30 EEST Registration and Virtual Login

(via Zoom)

(<https://wu-ac-at.zoom.us/j/97065906548?pwd=TIZleC9hYVhRWVIONm1yU296dkFmQT09>)

Meeting ID: 970 6590 6548

Passcode: 693751

14:30 – 15:00 EEST **Welcome and Opening to ReGeneration Dialogue**

14:30 – 14:40 EEST **ReGeneration Week and Dialogues**

Ella Turta, Secretary General, ReGeneration 2030 Foundation, Sweden

14:40 – 14:50 EEST **Nordics for Sustainable Development**

Fanny Ejder, Nordic Council of Ministers, Denmark

&

Micke Larsson, Government of Åland, Finland

14:50 – 15:00 EEST **European Sustainable Development Network: 20 years of sustainability**

Annika Lindblom, ESDN President, Director for International and EU Affairs Ministry for the Environment, Finland

15:00 – 18:00 EEST **ReGeneration Week Dialogue Meeting**

(Login via Zoom)

(<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82904487909>)

Meeting ID: 829 0448 7909

ReGeneration 2030 lays great value on intergenerational knowledge sharing and dialogue. Therefore, ReGeneration 2030 organizes dialogue meetings where youth and senior decision- and policymakers get to discuss and find solutions to solve the current and future challenges. The main purpose of the dialogues is to create fruitful and respectful discussions between the youth and senior participants and provide a platform to grow common and increased understanding of the topics discussed and encourage the youth to articulate their demands.

The ReGeneration Week Dialogue participants and the ESDN participants will be divided into groups of around 20-30.

Session 1

15:00 – 15:10 EEST

Introduction

Ella Turta, Secretary General, ReGeneration 2030 Foundation, Sweden

15:10 – 16:20 EEST

Dialogue Meeting 1

16:20 – 16:30 EEST

Wrapping Up

16:30 – 16:40 EEST

Break & Forming New Groups

Session 2

16:40 – 16:45 EEST

Introduction

Ella Turta, Secretary General, ReGeneration 2030 Foundation, Sweden

16:45 – 17:50 EEST

Dialogue Meeting 2

17:50 – 18:00 EEST

Wrapping Up

18:15 – 19:45 EEST

*ESDN Dinner at Brasserie Ångbåtsbryggan
2 Ångbåtsbryggan, Mariehamn 22100*

20:00 – 21:30 EEST

GALA Evening

(Virtual login via Coeo)

*Virtual participants can attend the Gala by registering on the streaming tool Coeo via this link:
<https://regenerationweek.coeo.events/>.*

Virtual participants need to click 'Register Now' and set-up an account. Thereafter, virtual participants can enter the Coeo platform and choose Monday. The Gala will be livestreamed there between 20:00 - 21:30 EEST.

The ReGeneration Gala highlights the importance of youth engagement and celebrates the adopted RGW Declaration. The Gala will be attended by the ReGeneration Week participants and power holders such as the EU Commissioner for Environment, Oceans and Fisheries, Virginijus Sinkevičius to whom the Declaration will be handed over during the evening.

21:30 EEST

End of Day 1

09:00 - 09:30 EEST **Registration and Virtual Login**

(via Coeo)

Virtual participants can attend the Panel Discussion by registering on the streaming tool Coeo via this link: <https://regenerationweek.coeo.events/>.

Virtual participants need to click 'Register Now' and set-up an account. Thereafter, virtual participants can enter the Coeo platform and choose Tuesday. The Panel Discussion will be livestreamed there between 09:30 - 11:00 EEST.

09:30 - 11:00 EEST **Panel Discussion and Dialogue**

The aim of the panel discussion is to look into the future and provide answers on how youth and senior change makers, together, could implement the solutions that are needed for a system change. To exchange on the role that youth can play as agents of change, the panel discussion will focus on discussing the Declaration adopted during the ReGeneration Week and the upcoming international climate commit CoP26 and exchange on proposals to drive youth action from local to global.

11:00 – 11:30 EEST **Coffee Break**

(Virtual Login via Zoom)

(<https://zevents-ax.zoom.us/j/84663871148?pwd=Q1psSDdRWUJOTmZmU0dSK1ZiaWhTZz09>)

Password: 990845

11:30 – 12:00 EEST **6th ESDN Peer Learning Platform: Welcome and Opening**

11:30 – 11:35 EEST **Goals of the Peer Learning Platform**

Annika Lindblom, ESDN President and Director for International and EU Affairs, Ministry of the Environment, Finland

11:35 – 11:45 EEST **Civil Society Involvement in the Nordic cooperation**

Fanny Ejder, Nordic Council of Ministers, Denmark

11:45 – 12:00 EEST **The Everyone Can Flourish Story of Åland**

Alfons Röblom, Minister for Development, Environment and Energy, Government of Åland

12:00 – 13:15 EEST **Session 1: Governmental Engagement and Involvement of Citizens and Civil Society**

Finland: Civil Society Engagement

Riina Pursiainen, *Prime Minister's Office, Finland*

Germany: Joint Action for Sustainable Development

Marc-Oliver Pahl*, *German Council for Sustainable Development, Germany*

Sweden: Engaging Civil Society

Julia Hector*, *Ministry of the Environment, Sweden*

Romania: Coalition for Sustainable Development and Education Campaigns for the SDGs

László Borbély, *Prime Minister's Office – Office for Sustainable Development, Romania*

Netherlands: Youth Engagement on Governmental Sustainable Development Policies

Sandra Pellegrom*, *Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Netherlands*

&

Mert Kumru, *UN Youth Representatives - Human Rights and Security, Netherlands*

&

Manal Moussane, *UN Youth Representatives - Human Rights and Security, Netherlands*

13:15 – 14:00 EEST

Networking Lunch (Alandica)

14:00 – 15:00 EEST

Session 2: Engaging with Citizens and Civil Society

European Economic and Social Committee

Peter Schmidt*, *European Economic and Social Committee, Belgium*

SDG Watch Austria

Bernhard Zlanabitnig*, *SDG Watch Austria, Austria*

Danish 92 Group

Helene Gjerding*, *Danish 92 Group, Denmark*

Franco-German Forum for the Future: At the “green face”- The city of Marburg’s experience of engaging citizens in climate protection

Julia Plessing*, *Franco-German Forum for the Future, Germany*

15:00 - 15:30 EEST

Coffee Break

15:30 – 16:30 EEST

Session 3: Breakout Groups – Strategies for broader civic engagement

Discussion questions regarding strategies for broader civic engagement in the work with sustainable development and the implementation of the SDGs could be:

- 1. Why is it important for civil society and citizens to be involved and engaged in the government's work with SD and the SDGs?*
 - 2. What are the challenges/barriers for civil society and citizens in getting involved and engaged with governments AND for government in involving and engaging civil society and citizens in the work with SD and the SDGs?*
 - 3. What concrete steps can be taken to increase broader civil society and citizen involvement and engagement with governments in the work with SD and the SDGs?*
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16:30 – 17:15 EEST

Session 4: Results of the Breakout Groups

16:30 – 17:00 EEST

Summary of the Results

Representatives from each group summarize the discussions in the breakout groups. The participants get an opportunity to share brief reflections with the whole group.

17:00 – 17:15 EEST

Sharing Individual Learnings

17:15 – 17:30 EEST

Closing of the 6th ESDN Peer Learning Platform

17:15 – 17:20 EEST

Nordic Council of Ministers

Fanny Ejder, Nordic Council of Ministers, Denmark

17:20 – 17:25 EEST

Government of Åland

Micke Larsson, Government of Åland, Finland

17:25 – 17:30 EEST

ESDN Farewell

Elisabeth Freytag-Rigler, ESDN Vice President, Federal Ministry for Climate Action, Austria

17:30 EEST

End of the 6th ESDN Peer Learning Platform

18:30 – 20:30 EEST

Nordic Council of Ministers Dinner at Nautical Hamngatan 2, 22100 Mariehamn
